

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DPW-01 DRC-01 /128 W

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R 231130Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6728

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7959

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, LA

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF LAO PROTOCOL: JCCIA

MEETINGS BEGIN

REF: VIENTIANE 7357

BEGIN SUMMARY: FIRST PLENARY SESSION OF THE JOINT
CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT WAS HELD
TODAY, WITH COMMUNIST SIDE TAKING TOUGH AND BUSINESSLIKE
TONE. LPF PREPARED STATEMENT DENOUNCED ALLEGED AMERICAN
AND RIGHT-WING INTERFERENCE WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF
LAOS ACCORDS, DEMANDED BETTER FACILITIES FOR LPF
PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE, AND PROPOSED DETAILED AGENDA
FOR FORTHCOMING SESSIONS OF COMMISSION. AGENDA INCLUDES
PROVISION FOR POW/MIA MATTERS "ACCORDING TO TIME PERIOD
SET BY PROTOCOL." LPF APPEARS TO BE MAKING
ESTABLISHMENT OF DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEUTRALI-
ZATION OF VIENTIANE, INCLUDING JOINT POLICE PATROLS
AND EQUALIZATION OF RLG AND LPF FORCES, A FIRM
PRECONDITION FOR ANY PROGRESS ON OTHER PROVISIONS OF
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THE PROTOCOL. WITH RLG CONSERVATIVE FACTIONS ALSO

IN TRUCULENT MOOD, OMENS ARE NOT GOOD FOR RAPID FORMATION OF COALITION GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. RLG AND LPF DELEGATIONS TO JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCCIA) MET IN FIRST PLENARY CEREMONIAL SESSION FOR AN HOUR THIS MORNING AT 1000 HOURS. HEADS OF DELEGATIONS, SOUKAN VILAYSARN AND SOTH PHETRASY, READ PREPARED STATEMENTS, AND THEN AGREED TO HOLD PLENARY JCCIA MEETINGS EVERY THURSDAY AT 0900 HOURS. VENUE WILL ALTERNATE BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (PRESIDENCE DU CONSEIL WHERE MEETING WAS HELD TODAY) AND HOTEL SOMBOUN IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN WHERE LPF DELEGATION IS HOUSED. LANE PATHAMMAVONG AND PHAO BOUNNAPHOL WERE APPOINTED SPOKESMEN FOR RLG AND LPF DELEGATIONS RESPECTIVELY. MEETING AGREED THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH BETWEEN FORMAL SESSIONS AND THAT SUB-GROUPS OF JCCIA COULD MEET WHEN EITHER SIDE DESIRED. NEXT WEEK'S JCCIA SESSION WILL DISCUSS AGENDA FOR SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS (LPF PREPARED STATEMENT CONTAINED PROPOSED AGENDA).

2. HEADS OF DELEGATIONS TOLD REPORTERS AFTERWARDS THAT ARRIVAL OF THIRD CONTINGENT OF 200 LPF PERSONNEL APPROVED BY PRIME MINISTER NOVEMBER 19 WOULD COMPLETE SOVIET AIRLIFT OF LPF PERSONNEL TO VIENTIANE, BUT CARGO FLIGHTS WOULD CONTINUE TO RESUPPLY LPF PERSONNEL HERE. ASKED WHEN LPF WOULD SUBMIT ITS CABINET MEMBER LIST, SOTH SAID TIMING WOULD DEPEND ON PROGRESS OF NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG.

3. LPF PREPARED STATEMENT OPENED BY BLASTING "ATTEMPTS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKEYS" TO BLOCK SOLUTION OF LAOS PROBLEM. IT INSISTED THAT "GUARANTEE OF SECURITY IN BOTH CITIES IS NECESSARY CONDITION FOR FORMATION OF PGNU AND JNPC. FAILURE TO ESTABLISH ADEQUATE SECURITY WILL IMPEDE FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT AND RETARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAOS AGREEMENTS."

4. STATEMENT LISTS FOLLOWING POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVISIONS OF LAOS AGREEMENT AS MOST IMPORTANT TO IMPLEMENT:

(A) STRICT APPLICATION OF CEASEFIRE BASED ON RESPECT FOR ZONES UNDER CONTROL OF EACH PARTY.

(B) NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG TO PERMIT RAPID FORMATION OF PGNU AND TO ASSURE

SECURITY AND ALL NECESSARY FACILITIES TO PERSONNEL OF BOTH PARTIES.

(C) APPLICATION OF PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES, INCLUDING ABROGATION OF ALL REGULATIONS, LAWS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTRARY TO SUCH LIBERTIES.

(D) TERMINATION OF ALL FOREIGN MILITARY INTER-FERENCE AND INVOLVEMENT IN LAOS; INCLUDING DEFINITIVE END TO ALL FOREIGN AVIATION ACTIVITIES, WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN MILITARY PERSONNEL, DISSOLUTION OF SPECIAL FORCES ORGANIZED, ARMED AND COMMANDED DIRECTLY BY AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS; DISMANTLEMENT OF BASES AND INSTALLATIONS OF THESE FORCES.

(E) TURN-OVER BY BOTH SIDES WITHIN FINITE TIME PERIOD OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL CAPTURED AND DETAINED DURING THE WAR; COMPILATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THOSE MISSING IN ACTION DURING THE WAR.

(F) ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES TO FACILITATE THEIR RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES OF ORIGIN.

5. NOTING THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROVISIONS WILL INVOLVE INNUMERABLE DIFFICULTIES, STATEMENT POSES "MOST URGENT TASKS" FOR JCCIA ACCORDING TO FOLLOWING ORDER OF PRIORITY:

(A) CREATE CONDITIONS TO GUARANTEE SECURITY IN VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG. THIS INCLUDES MAINTAINING AIRLIFT TO SUPPLY LPF FORCES IN BOTH CITIES; STRICTLY APPLYING PRINCIPLE THAT BOTH SIDES' FORCES

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IN TWO CITIES MUST HAVE EQUAL NUMBERS AND EQUIVALENT EQUIPMENT; GUARDING AGAINST "TRICKS AND SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES" FROM WITHIN OR OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY; AND IMMEDIATELY CONSTITUTING THE MIXED TEAMS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TWO CITIES.

(B) DEVELOP ARRANGEMENTS FOR A TOTAL CEASEFIRE IN SPIRIT OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR ZONES UNDER CONTROL OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTIES.

(C) FACILITATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE JCCIA AND ITS SUBCOMMITTEES, INCLUDING AGREEMENT ON INSIGNIA, PROCEDURES AND OTHER MATTERS, INCLUDING THOSE GOVERNING COMMITTEE WORK.

(D) "ACCORDING TO THE TIME PERIOD SET BY THE
PROTOCOL, THE TWO PARTIES MUST INFORM THE JCCIA OF THE
NUMBER AND CATEGORY OF CIVIL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL
CAPTURED AND DETAINED DURING THE WAR."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7959

6. OUTSIDE THE FOREGOING PRIORITY OF ORDER, STATEMENT
NOTES THAT JCCIA MUST STUDY AND DECIDE ON OTHER
PROVISIONS CONCERNING COOPERATION BETWEEN JCCIA AND
THE ICC IN LAOS "IN SPIRIT OF SAFEGUARDING LAO
SOVEREIGNTY". STATEMENT CONCLUDES WITH REQUEST THAT
RLG SIDE APPROVE FOREGOING AGENDA SO THAT ISSUES
ENCOMPASSED THEREIN CAN BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT SESSION.

7. RLG STATEMENT CONTAINED LITTLE MORE THAN
INNOCUOUS PLATITUDES AND EXPRESSIONS OF HOPE THAT
JCCIA WORK WOULD SUCCEED.

8. FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF MEMBERS OF JCCIA WHO
PARTICIPATED IN TODAY'S SESSION:

VIENTIANE GOVERNMENT SIDE:

PHAGNA SOUKAN VILAYSARN -- PRESIDENT

PHAGNA KHAMKING SOUVANLASA -- VICE PRESIDENT
LANE PATHAMMAVONG -- SPOKESMAN
MP COLONEL LOUN SISOUNOL -- MEMBER
COLONEL ARYA PHIMMASONE -- MEMBER
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COLONEL SOMBOUN VONGPHRACHAN -- MEMBER
POL. COLONEL SOMPHET VONGSOUVAN -- MEMBER
LT. COLONEL LEUANG INSISIENGMAI -- SECRETARY
MAJOR KHAMTOUNE PHACHANIA -- SECRETARY

LAO PATRIOTIC FORCES SIDE
SOTH PHETRASY -- PRESIDENT
PADITH THIENGTHAM -- VICE PRESIDENT
CHENG SAIGNAVONG -- MEMBER
PHAO BOUNNAPHOL -- SPOKESMAN
PHONSAI CHANTHAVASY -- MEMBER
BOUNHOM SOUPHANTHARY -- MEMBER
VISONE SAIGNAVONG -- MEMBER
PHETSAMONE -- SECRETARY
BOUNSOM -- SECRETARY

9. COMMENT: AS WAS THE CASE WHEN THE LAO INTERNAL
TALKS BEGAN OVER A YEAR AGO, COMMUNIST SIDE WAS WELL-
PREPARED WITH PROPOSED AGENDA AND CLEARCUT DEMANDS
CONVEYED IN A TOUGH BUT BUSINESSLIKE TONE. WITH RLG
CONSERVATIVE FACTIONS ALSO IN TRUCULENT MOOD, OMENS
ARE NOT GOOD FOR RAPID FORMATION OF COALITION GOVERN-
MENT. NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE A FEW ENCOURAGING SIGNS.
ONE IS THAT CEREMONIAL SESSION OF JCCIA WAS MOVED
FROM NOVEMBER 28 TO TODAY AT COMMUNIST REQUEST. ANOTHER
IS INCLUSION OF POW/MIA ITEM ON LPF'S PROPOSED AGENDA.
THIS MAY HAVE BEEN RESULT OF OUR DEMARCHE TO SOTH
PHETRASY ON SUBJECT OCTOBER 26. (REFTEL). BEFORE ANY
PROGRESS CAN BE MADE, HOWEVER, WE EXPECT LENGTHY AND
ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE PARTIES ON THE
DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS WHICH LPF IS DEMANDING FOR
NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE, PARTICULARLY SUCH
FEATURES AS JOINT POLICE PATROLS AND EQUALIZATION OF
RLG AND LPF FORCES.
WHITEHOUSE

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